

species is at times a common fall visitor, Mr. D. E. Brown seeing a flock of forty-eight on Aug. 16, 1913. The earliest arrival of which I have a record is one that I collected on July 25, 1913.

The study of the *Limicolæ* has been sadly neglected in the State of Washington, partly because of adverse laws. It may be for this reason that literature on the subject is occasionally in error, but it also seems possible to me that the shore birds may have to some extent changed their route of migration.—J. H. BOWLES, *Tacoma, Wash.*

Barn Owl in Massachusetts.—On Oct. 21, 1915, a fine full plumaged male Barn Owl (*Aluco pratincola*) was taken in a trap on my place at Wenham, Mass.—JOHN C. PHILLIPS, *Wenham, Mass.*

Display of the Purple Finch.—On May 20, while at the path between the Flume House and the Flume, Crawford Notch, White Mts., N. H., I watched an interesting display of a male Purple Finch. There were two pairs of these birds. Close by me were two males and a female feeding on the ground, and perhaps twenty-five yards away a single female, also hopping about on the ground. Very suddenly one of the males jumped up and after a short rapid flight lit about six inches from the lone female, and stood bolt upright, and facing her with extended wings. He then began to vibrate his wings rapidly, but kept them extended all the while. The motion was so fast that the wings were blurred to the eye. I have seen a cock silver pheasant display in a somewhat similar way, sitting on a perch, only the vibration of the wings did not extend over so wide an arc.

The male finch kept this up for ten seconds, with perhaps only one or two brief intervals of arrested motion. Then the second male bird charged him and put him to flight. Evidently it was a case of trespass.—JOHN C. PHILLIPS, *Wenham, Mass.*

Late Nesting of the Montana Junco.—On Sept. 1, 1912, while working on the western slope of the Teton Mountains of western Wyoming, I found the nest of a Junco, apparently belonging to the above species. The nest was on the ground among flowers and grass in a straggling grove of spruce trees and at an elevation of 9700 feet above sea. It contained four newly hatched young birds. As this level is only 200 feet below the average elevation of timber-line for the range, winter sets in much earlier than in the valleys of the same region. In that particular year a soft snow fell on the night of September 1 to a depth of over three inches, and at the end of twenty-four hours some of it was still left. Another snow-storm followed about five days later. I did not see the nest after the snow, but under such unfavorable circumstances it seems unlikely that the pair of Juncos was able to rear its brood to maturity. No doubt this was a case of abnormally late nesting, probably to be explained by some accident that prevented the birds from rearing broods that they may have had earlier in the summer.—ELIOT BLACKWELDER, *Madison, Wis.*